AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace Figures 1-4 with New Figures 1-4, which are attached.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the following comments. Claims 1-25 were pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 8-9, 13, 15, and 19-21 have been amended, claims 2-5, 18, 22-25 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 26-29 have been added. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 6-17, 19-21, and 26-29 are pending.

Objection to Drawings:

New Figures 1-4 are attached. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that this objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Objection to claim 13

Claim 13 has been amended to refer only viral vectors. . It is, therefore, respectfully requested that this objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejection of claims 1-5, 7-9, and 12-25 under 35 U.S.C § 112, second paragraph, indefiniteness

The claims rejected by the Examiner have been amended. In reference to "alpha2-macrogobulin," in claim 19, this wording is an alternative name for the LDL

receptor related protein. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that these rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Rejection of claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, enablement

The claims have been amended to be limited to nucleic acids encoding specific receptor binding molecules. It is believed that one skilled in the art would know how to make the bybrid molecules of the claimed invention. The specification provides guidance to select the respective domain (See page 6, lines 6-29 of the specification). In addition, the specification further provides examples wherein several different protease inhibitor domains are linked to a receptor domain (See Examples 1-3). The Examples further show how to produce a viral vector (Examples 4-6). Multiple copy containing vectors are produced in Examples 7-8. Expression and production of the hybrid protein are exemplified in Examples 9-10, whereas, inhibition of proteolytic degradation of extracellular matrix is shown in Example 11. Example 12 depicts the effect on restenosis. Further examples are submitted in the form of an original research paper by one of the inventors, which is attached. The paper demonstrates further in vivo effects of molecules of the invention. It is, therefore, believed that the specification and what was known in the art at the time of filing provide enablement for the claimed nucleic acids and being able to perform the invention with the claimed nucleic acids. For all the reasons mentioned above, it is, therefore, respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Rejection of claims 1-4, 7-8, 13, 18-19, 21, and 24-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), anticipation by WO 92/02553

In order to show anticipation, the reference must teach or suggest every element of the claimed invention. The claimed invention is directed towards local expression of the nucleic acid encoding the hybrid molecule by means of transfecting or transducing cells in their environment for preventing local proteolytic activity, extracellular matrix degradation, cell migration, cell invasion or tissue remodeling. Whereas, WO 92/02553 is only directed toward administration of the hybrid protein itself and does not teach or suggest the specific hybrid molecules mentioned in the claimed invention. Thus, the reference does not anticipate the claimed invention. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Rejection of claims 1 and 14-16, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

For the reasons mentioned above, it is, therefore, respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these obviousness rejections.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If entry and consideration of the amendments above requires an extension of time, Applicants respectfully request that this be considered a petition therefor. The Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee(s) due in this connection to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,

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By _____

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